

# OBITUARY NOTICES

## J. S. HOPWOOD

C.B.E., M.B., B.S.

Dr. J. S. Hopwood, formerly medical superintendent of Broadmoor Institution, died at Colchester on 27 October. He was 85.

Joseph Stanley Hopwood was born on 13 September 1886 and qualified with the Conjoint diploma from St. Thomas's Hospital in 1909, graduating M.B., B.S. the following year. After a house appointment at his teaching hospital he joined the staff of Winwick Mental Hospital as a pathologist. He came to Broadmoor Institution, now Broadmoor Hospital, in 1923 as an assistant medical officer and was appointed medical superintendent in 1938, retiring in 1952.

Dr. Hopwood's contribution to the treatment of patients and to the quality of life in the hospital as a whole was immeasurable. Into the almost solely custodial environment he introduced concepts of self-government by the patients and put them into practice. He was responsible for the founding of the patients' magazine and of the dramatic club, which called itself the Broadmoorists and works actively and therapeutically still, giving a great deal of pleasure to its members and the general public. He devoted himself to the therapeutic recreational activities of his patients, and after his wife's death he seemed to spend all his waking hours, and many hours when others were asleep, in the hospital or in its interests. During the war years, with an attenuated staff and with patients frequently disturbed by air raid warnings, he showed calmness and courage in guiding the management of these patients, who at that time did not have the benefits of present-day tranquillizing drugs.

Hopwood managed the change-over of administration from the Home Office to the Board of Control which followed the implementation of the Criminal Justice Act, 1948. He was not only a great and liberal hospital administrator but a clinician of no mean standing, quick to assess and apply new techniques of treatment for the benefit of his patients. He made a number of substantial contributions to the literature of what would now be called forensic psychiatry. In his early days he encouraged the "attendants" to become professionally qualified by taking the certificate of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, and organized their further education by lectures and seminars.

Dr. Hopwood was appointed C.B.E. in 1951. He had no children.—P.G.McG.

## HILDA C. ABRAHAM

M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dr. Hilda C. Abraham, consultant psychiatrist to the Paddington Clinic and Day Hospital, died on 3 October at the age of 64.

Hilda Clara Abraham was born in Zurich on 18 November 1906. Her father, Karl Abraham, the well-known German psychoanalyst, died while his children were still

young, and Hilda devoted much of her life to furthering his work. She began her medical training in Berlin at the time of the Nazi persecution and was permitted to complete her studies only on condition that she would leave Germany as soon as she had qualified. Without money or resources she came to England in 1938 and supported herself as a nurse and midwife while studying for a British qualification, which she obtained in 1945.

After the war she trained as a psychoanalyst and over the years did much teaching and lecturing here and abroad on her father's work. She edited and translated his clinical papers and the psychoanalytic dialogue in letters between him and Sigmund Freud. She was a consultant psychiatrist at the Paddington Clinic and Day Hospital and spent much time in psychotherapy. Interested in the psychological problems of women, she wrote several papers on unconsummated marriage and allied subjects.

Hilda Abraham had a forceful, outgoing personality with enormous drive and energy which enabled her to surmount difficulties which would have daunted many. She never forgot her own early struggles and was always most generous and helpful to younger colleagues. If any of her friends were in trouble through sickness or bereavement she was there immediately with practical help and support. In 1970, though already suffering from the illness from which she died, she attended the inaugural ceremony of the Karl Abraham Institute in Berlin, where she delivered two papers and had the satisfaction of seeing her father duly honoured at last in the city where he had worked.—S.D.

## Colonel J. J. D. K. ROCHE

M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., A.M.S.(RET.)

Colonel J. J. D. K. Roche died at his home at Surbiton, Surrey, on 1 October at the age of 89.

James Joseph Dillon Knight Roche was born in Dublin on 20 July 1883 and educated at Stoneyhurst College, Blackburn, and Trinity College, Dublin, where he graduated in 1907. After house appointments in Ireland he was successful at the R.A.M.C. examination and was commissioned on 30 January 1909. In 1913 he took the D.P.H.

He served with distinction in many parts of the Empire. From 1911 to 1915 he was at Gibraltar and in August 1915 in the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. In 1918-19 he commanded 86 General Hospital, North Russia, at Murmansk and was twice mentioned in dispatches. From 1922 to 1927 he served in India and from 1930 to 1932 in Bermuda. He was assistant director of health Southern Command in 1934-5 and in India from 1935 to 1937. Other appointments at this time were as assistant director health and public hygiene H.Q. Western Command in 1936, and A.D.M.S. H.Q. Home Counties Area East from 1937 to 1941. He was then

for six years president of the Standing Medical Board, Scottish Command. After retiring in 1946 he returned to part-time medical work for the Army and from 1951 to 1955 served on medical boards for the Ministry of Pensions.

James Roche was a loyal Irishman of the Empire, a deeply religious and devout Catholic, and a man who made lasting friendships. His work was always conscientious, and his sympathetic attitude to war pensioners was appreciated by his colleagues at the Ministry of Pensions. He was a lover of horses and dogs, a keen trout fisherman, and played a strong game of tennis. At one time he was Irish champion at table tennis. The last few years of his life were marred by a painful affliction which he bore with cheerfulness and courage.

He is survived by his wife and his son, who is a consultant anaesthetist, and by his daughter, who practises in Canada.—H.R.R.

## Colonel P. J. RICHARDS

D.S.O., O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., A.M.S.RET.

Colonel P. J. Richards died suddenly on 22 August while playing golf. He was 65.

Philip John Richards, one of four medical brothers, was born in Madras on 30 March 1906 and educated at Brighton College, Cambridge University, and St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where he qualified in 1929. After house appointments at Barts and the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Richards joined the R.A.M.C. in 1932. About a year later he was posted to Madras and then to Burma. In 1938 he returned to England. Promoted major in 1941, he took command of a field ambulance and showed evidence of his administrative ability by "turning the worst field ambulance in his division into the best," in the words of his divisional commander. He was posted to Persia and saw active service in Libya and Italy. Appointed O.B.E. in 1943, he was mentioned in dispatches the same year. In 1944 he was awarded the D.S.O. for the part he played in the Salerno landing.

Passing through the Staff College in 1945-46, he was promoted lieutenant-colonel in 1947, an acting rank he had held for some years. After the war his postings took him to most of the trouble spots in the world. He was sent to Palestine; and then was A.D.M.S. in Malaya during the guerrilla activities. He was C.O. British Military Medical Services in Berlin in 1951 and during the Suez episode in 1956. Having been made a full colonel in 1953, he held several posts as A.D.M.S., was C.O. of two military hospitals, and was D.D.M.S. Malta from 1957 till he was retired on health grounds in 1960.

At Cambridge he had been a useful quarter-miler. At Barts he represented the hospital boxing club as heavyweight and was London Hospitals champion at that weight for three successive years. "P.J." would always

lend a sympathetic ear to others' problems. Extremely good company, he made many lasting friendships, and his sudden death was a sad loss to all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife and a son and daughter.—W.F.R.

## J. H. RAKE

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dr. J. H. Rake, who was in general practice at Howick, Natal, died at Pietermaritzburg on 31 July at the age of 58.

John Harwood Rake was born on 27 June 1913 and educated at Monkton Combe School and Guy's Hospital, where he qualified in 1938. On the outbreak of war in 1939 he joined the R.A.M.C. and after jungle warfare training in Nigeria went to India as an officer commanding a base hospital. Later he was posted to Burma, and after a further spell in India returned to England in 1946. The following year he emigrated to South Africa and settled in practice at Howick.

John Rake was well liked by all, and particularly by his African patients, for whom he did so much. Apart from his demanding practice he took a full part in the life of the community. An active Mason and Rotarian, he was a man of great kindness and humour. He leaves his wife, two sons, and daughter.—R.J.R.

## K. SLAWINSKI

M.D., T.D.D.

Dr. K. Slawinski, who was in general practice at Middlesbrough, Yorkshire, died on 16 September. He was 58.

Karol Slawinski was born in Poland on 28 March 1913. He studied medicine at Warsaw University and took his final examinations in 1939. War broke out, and when Russian troops invaded Poland he was arrested with his fellow students and deported to labour camps in Siberia. Here he was kept in solitary confinement for five months and sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment for no reason. During his stay in labour camps he started his medical career as an assigned doctor to a large number of fellow prisoners, and he was of much help to them in incredibly difficult circumstances.

In 1942 he was allowed to join the Polish armed forces in the Soviet Union and was subsequently evacuated to the Middle East. He took the opportunity to complete his medical studies at the French University of St. Joseph at Beirut and obtained his degree of M.D. After this he served as medical officer in the Polish armed forces in Italy.

Dr. Slawinski came to England in 1946, and after a short period of postgraduate training at Edinburgh University and a house appointment at Bishop Auckland General Hospital he was appointed medical officer to the Colonial Service in Malaya. In 1956 he took the tuberculous diseases diploma. Later he was appointed medical officer in Sarawak in charge of 3rd Division and was responsible for the modernizing and building of the local hospital. He was admired and liked by the local community for his personal qualities. Returning to England, he settled in general practice, first in County Durham and later in Middlesbrough. Dr. Slawinski was dedicated to his work and will be remembered for his compassion and

understanding of human suffering. He did not spare himself to the needs of others.

He is survived by his wife and son.—E.A.O.

## M. N. OSTER

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Dr. M. N. Oster, who was in general practice at Stoke Newington, London, died in hospital at Tel Aviv, Israel, on 20 May. He was 74.

Michael Nathan Oster was born in London on 20 June 1896 and educated at Jews' Free School and Parmiter's School. He then became a schoolmaster to support himself later as a student at King's College, London, and Westminster Hospital. He won a number of prizes as an undergraduate and qualified with the Conjoint diploma in 1926. As a resident at his teaching hospital he received warm testimonials from his chiefs, and his contemporaries showed their esteem by installing him as Grand Master of the Hospital Lodge.

His general practice grew to the maximum permitted under the N.H.I. and later the N.H.S., but his natural teaching ability was not wasted. In the depressed 1930s he encouraged and coached numerous patients' children and enabled them to acquire a secondary education. Many a young Cockney face appeared triumphantly at the surgery door "just to tell the doctor that I won my scholarship." As a lecturer and examiner to the St. John Ambulance Association he was widely acclaimed. His lectures attracted large audiences, for his wit and erudition continually offered new outlooks far outside the standard first-aid manuals. At his retirement he was area surgeon to the North London St. John Ambulance Brigade, and his devotion to the cause was rewarded by promotion to the rank of Associate Commander of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Dr. Oster was also active in local medical affairs, and from 1945 to 1948 served as councillor to the borough of Stoke Newington. At the introduction of the N.H.S. he was a founder member of the Tottenham Group Hospital Management Committee, a member of the Bearsted Hospital house committee, and later chairman of the St. Anne's Hospital house committee.

Dr. Oster was a man of great culture and read extensively, his particular interest being mediaeval history and nineteenth-century English thinkers. He was a tower of strength to his family as well as to a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Deeply religious by nature, he was blessed with a devoted wife. She predeceased him by less than a year, and he never fully recovered from the blow.—J.N.B. and S.G.

## MARGARET M. BROTHERSTON

M.B.E., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Dr Angus Macrae writes: Margaret Brotherston (obituary, 30 October, p. 306) was a member of a remarkable generation of women of high intellectual capacity and great strength of character who were born during the latter part of the nineteenth century and became notable pioneers in medicine and other fields. Your admirable obituary does justice to her fine record of public service. May I add a few words about her as a person?

One's first attempt to communicate with Dr. Brotherston by telephone was a slightly startling experience. From the other end of the line came no smooth "Hullo" but a loud and most peremptory "Yes?" But although she could appear formidable she had a great capacity for affection. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother; and to the end of her long life she retained a most lively interest in the welfare of a wide circle of friends. It was impossible to visit her without being subjected to a long and searching catechism concerning one's recent activities and those of each member of one's family. Only when this inquisition was concluded was she prepared to discuss other topics.

Perhaps her most outstanding characteristic was her shining sincerity. There was no malice in her, but her pawky comments on people and events were refreshingly forthright. She did not disguise her pleasure on being appointed M.B.E. and, later, honorary vice-president of the Edinburgh University Graduates' Association; and if in truth there are trumpets on the other side I can well imagine the quiet satisfaction with which she heard the fanfare that greeted her. But she was essentially modest and unassuming, and she had much too keen a sense of humour to become in the slightest degree pompous. Appropriately, her middle name was Merry, which was the correct description of her twinkling eyes. A unique and very lovable personality has gone from us. It was a joy to know her. There will never be another quite like her.

## F. LISHMAN

O.B.E., M.B., B.S.

L.R.C., M.D., and G.F.L. write: Fenwick's gift for friendship was outstanding (obituary, 9 October, p. 118). He was entirely without pomposity, and though, as you rightly say, he was well known in the field of medical politics, he was never one to monopolize the conversation or be a bore. On the contrary, if one introduced one's friends they always enjoyed meeting him and liked and remembered him. For many years he was a well-known member of the Reform Club, Pall Mall, and he served for a time on the committee. This was in addition to a great many calls on his time when he came to London on duty more or less weekly. He normally slept at the club when in London, and his visits were looked forward to not only by the members who knew him and dined with him but also by the staff, whose ailments he made his special interest. Among his friends he would relax and give the news from County Durham. He was proud of his practice and his partners, and also in particular of the geriatric hospital of which he was the medical superintendent. It was a great day for him when one of the patients achieved her centenary. His account of finding on one of his visits a young enthusiast administering the "kiss of life" to a hopelessly senile moribund octogenarian was well worth hearing. He also greatly enjoyed attending the dinners of the Apothecaries Society and the Barbers' Company (he was a Liveryman of both) and he was very good company as a host or guest. He was also a good correspondent and an excellent host in his own home, and altogether a most lovable person—a charitable man in real sense.